

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, as presently amended and in light of the following discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 9-14 are pending in the present application, Claims 1-8 having been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer, and Claims 9-14 having been added. Claim 9 is a combination of previous Claims 1, 4, and 5, Claim 10 recites the features of previous Claim 2, Claim 11 recites the features of previous Claim 3, Claim 12 recites the features of previous Claim 8, Claim 13 recites the features of previous Claim 6, and Claim 14 recites the features of previous Claim 7. Applicants respectfully submit that no new matter is added.

In the outstanding Office Action, the drawings were objected to; Claims 1, 2, and 8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over the Applicants' Admitted Prior Art (hereafter, "AAPA") in view of Kim et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,504,756, hereafter "Kim"); Claims 3 and 4 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over the AAPA in view of Kim, Johnson (U.S. Patent No. 4,811,345), and Sagawa et al. (U.S. Patent No. 3,872,245); and Claims 5-7 were indicated as containing allowable subject matter.

Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter. In view of this indication, the subject matter of previously presented Claim 5 has been incorporated into new independent Claim 9.

Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that Claim 9, and Claims 10-14 dependent thereon, are in condition for allowance.

Applicants respectfully traverse the objection to the drawings. The outstanding Office Action suggests that output of the serial-to-parallel converter 15, in Applicants' Figs. 3-5,

should have a backslash through it to indicate a plurality of outputs so as to indicate serial-to-parallel conversion.¹

However, the serial-to-parallel converter 15, shown in Figs. 3-5, receives 3 different inputs, but it only converts the input from a scanning output terminal 26 to parallel data.² The other two inputs are from a clock output terminal 11 and an enable-signal output terminal 13, and these two inputs are not converted into parallel data by the serial-to-parallel data converter 15. The Specification, for a non-limiting embodiment of the claimed invention, describes that only serial data from the scanning output terminal 26 is converted to parallel data by the serial-to-parallel data converter 15.³ Figs. 3-5 show the port (indicated by the arrow) on which the parallel data is output. Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that there is no need to graphically show in Figs. 3-5 a single input line being converted into multiple output lines so as to indicate serial-to-parallel conversion when the accompanying description in the Specification adequately describes that serial data is being converted into parallel data. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that this objection be withdrawn.

¹ See outstanding Office Action, at p.2, last paragraph.

² See Specification, at p. 9, lines 1-14

³ Id.

Consequently, in light of the above discussion and in view of the present amendment, the outstanding grounds for rejection are believed to have been overcome. The present application is believed to be in condition for formal allowance. An early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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